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PTC/SB/97 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. QMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Tradement Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Application Number: 09/286,822

Filing Date: 4/5/1999

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- 1. Fee Transmittal
- 2. Response to Office Action dated 08/24/2005

Total pages including cover sheet: 17

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Name (Print/Type) Enfinance A. Rivera This exfection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.135. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patenta, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Emmanuel A. Rivera (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)

Customer No. 22801

## **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF AUGUST 24, 2005**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (the Action) of August 24, 2005, the response is provided as follows:

The listing of the claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.